

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Urban's predecessor in the papacy. Only a few feudal nobles, like Francesco di Vico, the tyrant of Viterbo and titular prefect of Rome, openly opposed the Roman claimant—although Gian Galeazzo Visconti, who had succeeded his father Galeazzo as lord of Pavia in August, was married to a sister of the French King, and probably already contemplated the union of the whole Milanese dominion in his own person, secretly kept in touch with Louis of Anjou and the Clementine leaders.

From the outset, the Emperor Charles IV accepted Urban as lawful Pope, and vigorously supported his cause. Dying in November, 1378, he instructed his son and successor, Wenceslaus (whom Urban, after much delay, had recognized as King of the Romans at Tivoli, on July 26), to pursue the same course. But he did not carry all Germany with him. The Dukes of Bavaria, Luxemburg (the Emperor's own brother), and Lorraine, the Archbishop of Mayence, and, in general, the princes of the Empire most in touch with France, declared for Clement. Hostility to France led the counsellors of Richard II to adhere so fanatically to Urban that they refused to hear the other side ; the Cardinal of Poitiers, appointed Clementine legate to England, was denied admission into the country; and those portions of France still subject to the English were compelled to adopt the faith of their rulers. Scotland acknowledged Clement, as also did Brittany, while Flanders was Urbanist. Louis of Hungary and Poland, then at the height of his power, after some delay, adhered to Urban. Charles the Bad of Navarre and Ferdinand of Portugal did not commit themselves. The Kings of Aragon and Castile, Pedro IV and Henry II, determined for the present to remain strictly neutral ; and it is to the investigations of the ambassadors of Pedro and of Henry's successor, Juan I, that we owe the series of depositions and testimonies now preserved in the Vatican Archives upon which much of our knowledge of the details of the events that caused the Great Schism is ultimately based.